DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY BAFleak DATE 2/12/80
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

September 20, 1977

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS

ACTION
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Exit

Ambassador Yong Shik Kim
Republic of Korea
232 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

I am dismayed by recent news reports from the Republic of Korea quoting South Korean officials as saying that your government might return Tongsun Park to the United States in exchange for General Kim Hyung Wook, who is currently in exile in this country.

If these reports are accurate, someone in your government is choosing to ignore important differences in the cases of General Kim and Tongsun Park. Mr. Park is not accused of having committed political crimes in the United States. He is accused of working with your government to undermine U.S. foreign policy through bribery, racketeering, and mail fraud.

Further, past official statements attributed to your government have indicated Tongsun Park could not be returned to the United States under any circumstances. Now some Korean officials are apparently arrogantly demanding the exchange of General Kim as a prerequisite for the return of Tongsun Park. If true, these officials are indicating the Korean government can now do what it formerly claimed it could not do under under any circumstances, namely, return Mr. Park to the U.S. for questioning.

As a member of the United States House of Representatives and the Committee charged with investigating allegations of wrong doing on the part of Mr. Park, I would very much appreciate your comments on the accuracy of the statements calling for the return of General Kim as a condition for the return of Mr. Park. I sincerely hope these statements do not represent the official position

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of your government. If your government is now trying to use the Tongsun Park affair to arrest General Kim, I fear you will only succeed in reducing already diminished support for the Republic of Korea in the United States Congress.

Best wishes and kindest regards.

Bruce Caputo
Member of Congress

BC/slb

cc: Honorable Cyrus Vance
Secretary of State

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